

soldiers in the land as well as the marine service, gave them a fair chance to investigate the nature of the dispute between the Americans and the English ;—and it ever appeared unto me they sucked as the babe at the breast, from the Americans, their ideas of civil and religious liberty.—For it is worthy of remark, that soon after their return to Europe from America, after the peace of 1783, the seeds of the Revolution began to sprout, and for a time flourished, until it was endeavoured to be cut in the bud, by the coalesced powers, enemies to civil and religious liberty—and which compelled the asserters of the rights of human nature to have recourse to arms.—The Austrian Flanders was early in the contest the theatre of war ; and it is well worthy of remark, that the famous Charles the fifth, emperor of Germany, &c. was the sole heir of the ancient house of Burgundy, in the right of his mother, who brought with her the sovereignty of Flanders into the family—He added it as an appendage to the German Imperial Eagle. The importance of the country is very great, and France in consequence of her being in possession, could extend her maritime influence, so as to annoy the commerce of Britain, and prevent Austria from being a maritime power. These weighty considerations on the opposite sides, was the cause of the very many bloody battles fought in that country, which must be fresh in the memory of no inconsiderable number ;—But as I must be brief, in order to avoid prolixity—suffice when I say that the wholesome nourishment of the mind, they were furnished with, under the American stars. These faithful pupils, like robust soldiers, they went on to conquer, and are to this day in possession of Austrian Flanders—the nest of the Imperial

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